Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

Received

Post Office Box 256 Nixon, Nevada 89424 Telephone: (775) 574-1000 / 574-1001 / 574-1002 FAX (775) 574-1008 A2012-67

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Office of PAGR

October 26, 2011

Dean Granholm, Vice-President
Delivery & Post Office Operations
U.S. Postal Service – Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

RE:

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Dear Mr. Granholm:

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe hereby submits this notice of appeal of the Postal Regulatory Commission's determination to close the Nixon Post Office, and the possible closure of the Wadsworth Post Office which are both located on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. Two town hall meetings were held on April 27th and June 15th in Nixon and Wadsworth which were both well-attended by the community. The Tribe has determined that the alternatives proposed by the U.S. Postal Service are unacceptable given the distance to travel, and the lack of transportation available to our community members. The Tribe also has concerns regarding possible vandalism to free-standing mail boxes as we are in a remote location.

Our community members have medicines delivered through the mail and it is not certain that these items will remain secure in a mailbox that is not monitored. During the winter months, the roads in our area tend to become very hazardous which would result in hardships to our community members in obtaining mail services since it is a 32-mile trek to and from the nearest post office.

The post offices in both reservation communities are vital to the operation of our tribal government as we send and receive certified mail from outside agencies on a regular basis. The Tribe's government-to-government relationship with the United States is based on trust and that trust is reliant on the ability to provide and receive vital government services in a consistent manner.

Enclosed are two resolutions enacted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council in support of keeping the two post offices open. We look forward to your reconsideration of the decision to close our post offices.

Mr. Dean Granholm October 26, 2011 Page 2

Sincerely,

Wayne Burke, Tribal Chairman Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

Copy w/Enclosures to:

Senator Harry Reid

Ms. Mary Conelly, State Director - Senator Reid's Office

Ms. Della John, Tribal Administrator Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

File

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

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RESOLUTION NO.: PL 46-11

RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE NIXON, NEVADA

- WHEREAS, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is organized pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act (25 U.S.C., Section 476) and is Federally recognized by the United States Government through the Secretary of the Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs; and
- WHEREAS, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council is the duly elected governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, charged with the responsibility to ensure the safety and welfare of its membership; and
- WHEREAS, the United States Post Office located in Wadsworth has served the Tribal community for very effectively for many years and has become a landmark in the Wadsworth community around which the citizens can send/receive mail, access vital government benefits/services, be informed of local meetings, events, school postings and job announcements; and
- WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Tribal Council that the United States Postal Service is considering closure of the Wadsworth Post Office; doing so would cause a hardship for tribal members to access their mail in a safe, illuminated, locally accessible, weather-resistant facility; and
- WHEREAS, on April 27, 2011 a community meeting was held to discuss the United States Post Office in Wadsworth's reduced workload and therefore costs to maintain the Wadsworth Post Office may not be warranted and mailed out a customer questionnaire to assist in this determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council hereby appeals to keep the United States Post Office located at Wadsworth, Nevada, open and accessible to the Wadsworth community and is willing to assist in this endeavor in any way possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman or his designee to effectuate any and all administrative changes to implement this Resolution of adoption and to forward a copy of the same to members of the Nevada Congressional delegation.

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, composed of ten members of whom <u>ten (10)</u>, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly held on the <u>6th</u> day of <u>MAY</u>, 2011, was adopted by the affirmative vote of <u>nine (9)</u> FOR and <u>zero (0)</u> AGAINST, with <u>zero (0)</u>, ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

Carol Smith, Tribal Secretary

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

Post Office Box 256 Nixon, Nevada 89424 Telephone: (775) 574-1000 / 574-1001 / 574-1002 FAX (775) 574-1008

RESOLUTION NO.: PL 55-11

RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE **NIXON, NEVADA**

- WHEREAS, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is organized pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act (25 U.S.C., Section 476) and is Federally recognized by the United States Government through the Secretary of the Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs; and
- WHEREAS, the Pyramid Lake Pajute Tribal Council is the duly elected governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, charged with the responsibility to ensure the safety and welfare of its membership; and
- the United States Post Office located in Nixon has served the Tribal community for very WHEREAS, effectively for many years and has become a landmark in the Nixon community around which the citizens can send/receive mail, access vital government benefits/services, be informed of local meetings, events, school postings and job announcements; and
- WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Tribal Council that the United States Postal Service is considering closure of the Nixon Post Office; doing so would cause a hardship for tribal members to access their mail in a safe, illuminated, locally accessible, weather-resistant facility; and
- according to the notification received from the United States Postal Service, costs to WHEREAS, maintain the Nixon Post Office may not be warranted and the United States Postal Service mailed out a customer questionnaire to assist in this determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council hereby appeals to keep the United States Post Office located at Nixon, Nevada, open and accessible to the Nixon community and is willing to assist in this endeavor in any way possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman or his designee to effectuate any and all administrative changes to implement this Resolution of adoption and to forward a copy of the same to members of the Nevada Congressional delegation.

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, composed of ten members of whom _nine (9), constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly held on the 2^{nd} day of JUNE, 2011, was adopted by the affirmative vote of eight (8) FOR and zero (0) AGAINST, with zero (0), ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

> Carol Smith, Tribal Secretary Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council